(c) and (d) The decision to take a dispute to WTO is taken on a case to case basis. The Government of India has approached the Dispute Settlement Body of WTO against the imposition of anti-dumping duties by USA on import of Cut-To-Length Carbon Quality Steel Plates from India.

SAG scheme for sports

307. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA' : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme has achieved the objective for which it was started;

(b) if so, whether it would be continued further;

(c) what are the flaws, if any, noticed in this scheme; and

(d) the remedial measures taken for removing them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHA KRISHNAN): (a) The Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme which was launched with the objective of training talented sports persons scouted from tribal, rural, coastal and remote areas of the country has been successful in achieving its objective as it has produced a number of outstanding sports persons. A few sports persons from SAG who have done India proud are Limba Ram (Arjuna Awardee), Shyam Lal (Arjuna Awardee), Lalremliana, Lalremsanga (Archery); Sanamacha Chanu (Arjuna Awardee), Anita Chanu (Weight Lifting); Dingko Singh (Arjuna Awardee), Z.V. Jollyson (Boxing); Helen Soy, Marystella Tirkey, Vimla Kujur (Hockey); Gunabir Singh (Football) and Johny Romal (Canoeing & Kayaking).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The SAG Scheme has been functioning smoothly. However, the scheme has been reviewed from time to time. Recently, while formulating the Tenth Five Year Plan, it has been proposed to provide boarding and lodging facilities to the trainees for 330 days from the next financial year against 300 days at present. The diet charges of the trainees have also been increased keeping in view the calorific requirement of the sports persons. The trainees are now given the option of joining the centre both on residential and non-residential basis.

National Youth Commission

308. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a National Youth Commission;

(b) if so, whether this Commission is to be set up initially for a period of six months;

(c) whether the main job of this Commission is to study the problems faced by the youth and the areas of concern for them;

(d) whether the Commission would also review the existing youth related schemes;

(e) whether its Chairman and members have been selected; and

(f) if so, by when, the Commission is likely to function?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI RADHA KRISHNAN) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Commission is likely to be set up shortly.

Establishment of Sports Academies in Andhra Pradesh

309. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal has been sent by the Andhra Pradesh Government for approval of Sports Authority of India for a Joint Venture between SAI and the Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh for establishment of ten academies in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, when such proposal was received;

(c) whether Government have obtained clearance from the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay in getting the clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHA KRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal from the Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh for setting up 10 Sports Academies, in different disciplines in collaboration with SAI under the Joint Venture Scheme, was received by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) on 24th March, 2000.

(c) and (d) The scheme of State sports Academies is yet to be finalised by the Government.